



# Kinship Konnections

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## Medical Release forms need to be updated

All Kinship Kids have new medical release forms their parent/guardian needs to sign and return as they expire annually. Some have already returned them to the office, but we are still waiting for others. If you could check with your Kinship family and remind them that even in an emergency, hospital personnel are not to treat a child/youth without parental/guardian permission, and offer to return the form for them, it might help get it done. I will make a copy of the signed form and give you the original to keep with you whenever you have your Kinship Kid. Be safe! Carry the form!

Thank you!

Kinship Stars will be showing up in the new website and promotional DVD this fall. We want all Kinship Kids and Youth to be eligible and included, so parents/guardians have new photo release forms to sign and return as well. If they give it to you, please hand it on to Jennifer. Thanks!!!

## Photos & BOOKS

Smile! We'd like ALL Kinship Kids & Mentors to have a portrait photo taken by Max Bailey Photography. No cost. Photos will be used for a directory on the new website. Can be taken doing your favorite activity. Call 732-7979 to schedule. No obligation, but great discounts.

All Kinship Kids are welcome to choose new FREE books to read, borrow or keep. These books were donated by Barnes & Noble. Just this month Beagle Books donated a box of new books for middle school kids. Stop by the Kinship Office or see Jennifer at a Kinship Group Activity to select some.



## Kamp Kinship

**Sunday, August 15, 2-5 pm**  
Spruce Hill Campground

(Head east of PR, take first right after County 6 on 169th Ave. Go South to 1st left.  
17404 Driftwood Lane

### Plan for FUN:

Swim, Fish, Canoe, Paddleboat,  
Campfire Dinner, Tetherball, Frisbee Golf

**Bring:** Swim Suit, Towel,  
Life Jacket (available)  
Sports Equipment, Fishing gear,  
Lawn Games, Lawn Chair,  
Sun Block, Bug Spray  
Sense of Adventure

SPREAD THE WORD  
about these

## KINSHIP FUNDRAISERS

**Kinship Clubhouse Raffle Tickets** on sale only this week! Drawing August 14, 5 PM at Legends & Logging Event in Red Bridge Park. Sign up to help!

**Kinship Day at Summerhill Farm** Friday, August 20. Folks can shop from 10:30-6:00, eat lunch on The Sun Porch 11-4 and make reservations for some good slow-cooked BBQ dinner served 5:30-8:30. When they tell the checkout staff that they are Kinship supporters, Summerhill Farm will donate 10% of their sales!

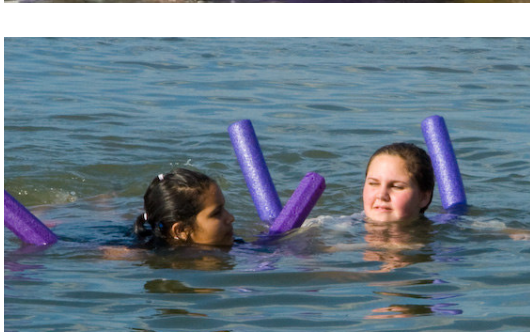
**Ice Cream Social at Dorset House** Thursday, September 9, 5-8 PM

**Kinship Spaghetti Dinner** Friday, September 24, 5-7 PM at Century School. Plan to be there!



# Kinship Summer Swim Party at Andersen's on Fishhook Lake

Photos by Joel Maxwell



# The Parent and Mentor Relationship

By Raeann Mayer, St. Joseph's Area Health Services



This summer, Kinship of the Park Rapids Area and St. Joseph's Area Health Services entered into a relationship to enhance the lives of our area children through the strengthening of parenting and of mentoring. It is well researched that every child needs a caring adult in their lives and certainly both the parent and the mentor can provide this experience for a child.

As the picture on the left portrays, children are great imitators of adults. As we impact the life of a child—either through parenting or mentoring—we can learn a lot from this picture. A child's brain is wired to do the same behavior that they see and/ or hear. For example, they learn to say 'bye-bye' and 'wave bye-bye' by hearing Mom or Day saying and doing it to them.

There is no doubt that a parent's expectations play the most important role in a child's life, especially for those under the age of 8. And children in Kinship get an extra bonus....that of a mentor or friend in their lives. It is, however, a shared responsibility on parents and on mentors to show our children that we all *care* for them

Over the next few newsletters, we will talk more about what it means to be a caring adult. This is important because we know that a child is not only listening and observing to us, but they will also be imitating our actions.

Simply put, a caring adult (parent and/or mentor) will help to mold a caring child.